ROM June 1974

Royal Ontario Museum
100 Queen's Park, Toronto M5S 2C6

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Front Cover: *View of Niagara Falls, with picnic party*. W. J. Bennett (1787-1844). Oil.
Back Cover: *Table Rock;* view of Niagara Falls, 1850. Hippolyte Sebron (1801-1879). Oil on canvas. Both photos from the *Niagara: "This Wonderful Downfall"* exhibition.

Chairman's Newsletter

Dear Member:

Many of you will have become aware, in one way or another, of the collection of archaeological finds from the People's Republic of China, which, since last summer, has been on exhibition in various capitals in Europe. You may also have seen a number of stories and articles in local and national papers speculating on the possibility that this exhibition would be shown in Canada. The possibility became a reality when, on March 15, 1974, the Canadian Government signed an agreement with the People's Republic of China. This magnificent exhibition will be brought to Canada and shown for the first time in North America at the Royal Ontario Museum from August 8, 1974 until November 16, 1974.

The existence of a growing body of important archaeological discoveries has been known in the West for some years. As knowledge of new finds increased, representations were made by a few individuals and organizations from many countries, including Canada, for the preparation of an exhibition whereby they could be shown to the entire world. However, it was just over a year ago, when a joint French-British government negotiating group visited Peking, that arrangements were completed. The Exhibition is now being shown in Stockholm, having been to Paris, London and Vienna. Toronto will be the first of two showings in North America, the second being in Washington, D.C.

Following the procedures established in other countries where The Exhibition has been shown, the Board of Trustees has set up the Chinese Exhibition Council of the Royal Ontario Museum to assume responsibility for The Exhibition. In addition to representatives of the Museum, including the Museum's Far Eastern Department, the Council includes representatives from the Governments of Canada and of Ontario and other individuals who have a personal interest in Chinese and Canadian Cultural Affairs. On April 16, 1974 the final agreement between the Chinese Exhibition Council of the ROM (CEC-ROM) and the Chinese Committee for the Organization of Exhibitions of Archaeological Finds was signed at Ottawa in the presence of Chang Wen-chin, Ambassador of the People's Republic of China, and L. A. D. Stephens, Director General, Bureau of Public Affairs, Department of External Affairs.

The Inter-Agency Agreement is signed in Ottawa by Wang Chu-liang, Counsellor at the Embassy of The People's Republic of China, and Noah Torno, Chairman of the CEC-ROM.

Within the Museum, planning for The Exhibition has been proceeding steadily over the past eight months under the able direction of Barbara Stephen, Associate Curator, Far Eastern Department, with the other members of the staff responsible for design, display, programmes, security, etc. Details of The Exhibition will be included in the next, July/August issue of ROM.

I do hope that you will take the opportunity to visit The Exhibition at least once.

Noah Torno,
Chairman, Board of Trustees

Spotlight

Canadian Crafts

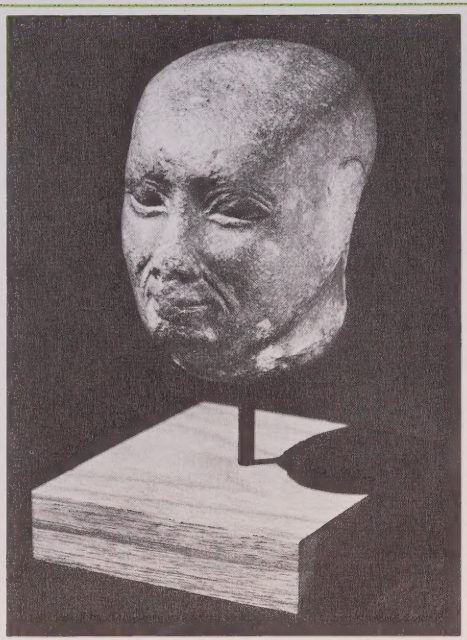
In June 1974, craftsmen and women from around the world will gather in Toronto for meetings of the World Craft Council. In honour of this occasion, ROM has arranged a special exhibition of Indian art as well as a Canadian textiles display.

Canadian Indian Art '74 opens to the public on June 4 in the new, air-conditioned Exhibition Hall. This display of contemporary art and traditional crafts, created by Indian artists across Canada, is the result of the co-operation of the Royal Ontario Museum, the Canadian Government Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, and the Canadian Guild of Crafts.

The exhibition endeavours to help the visitor gain an understanding of the colourful and exotic array of highly developed Indian art. A small display of items from ROM's permanent collection allows the visitor to compare and contrast the traditional art form with contemporary expression, while a short film explores form, colour, texture, space and linear development and looks at the Indian artist's intimate relationship with Nature.

Made in Canada, in ROM's Textile Galleries, illustrates the many facets of textile arts as they were practised in the earlier days of this country.

And ROM's Book and Gift Shop has a wide selection of Canadian Indian art and crafts including jewellery, carvings and masks.



New ROM Replica

From the collections of the Egyptian Department of the Royal Ontario Museum, a head of a middle-aged man in dark grey diorite, probably third century B.C. The original is a fragment of a statuette which was probably made to be a commemorative offering in a temple. Each replica, which will be available in ROM's Book and Gift Shop, has been hand finished — every detail painted precisely and accurately after the original. This latest collector's item is approximately 5″ high mounted on a walnut stand.

ROM World Civilization Tours

The Royal Ontario Museum is currently investigating the possibilities of sponsoring World Civilization tours.

Under consideration at present, for February/March 1975, is a two-week tour of Egypt. This trip would feature a four-day cruise on the Nile River and visits to Cairo, Giza, Memphis, Sakkara, Luxor, Abydos, Thebes (Valley of the Kings), Karnak, Esna, Edfu, Kom Ombo, Aswan and Abu Simbel. The group would be limited to 40 participants. Details will be mailed to all ROM members in September.

Also for February/March 1975, a two-week East African safari is being planned. This programme would highlight such famous game reserves as the Serengenti, Masi Mara, Amboseli, Ngorongoro Crater and Tsavo National. The group, limited to 25 participants, would also visit Nairobi, Tree Tops, Mt. Kenya Safari Club and Mombasa. Further information will be mailed to all ROM members in September.

A Viking tour in August 1975 is also in the planning stage. This group would tour the Scandinavian countries led by Dr. Walter Tovell, Director of ROM. Tentative tour programme includes Iceland, Denmark, Norway and Sweden. Details will be available in January, 1975.

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June 1974

Beaded draw purse of home tanned Elk hide by Indian artist Freda Wesaquate — Cree.

Canadian Indian Art '74 June 4 to July 14
Traditional-contemporary art and crafts created by Indian artists across Canada in the past two years. Designed to compare and contrast the traditional art form with contemporary expression; to explore form, colour, space and linear development; and to look at the Indian artist's intimate relationship with Nature.

The exhibition is the result of the co-operative efforts of the Royal Ontario Museum, the Canadian Government Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, and the Canadian Guild of Crafts, and coincides with the meeting in Toronto of the World Craft Council. Exhibition Hall. Special tours of the exhibition weekdays, except holidays, at 2 p.m.; tours for groups by arrangement, phone Mrs. Storie 487-0039. Free with Museum admission.

Cover: Supernatural Beaver Feast Bowl by Norman Tait, Richmond, B.C.

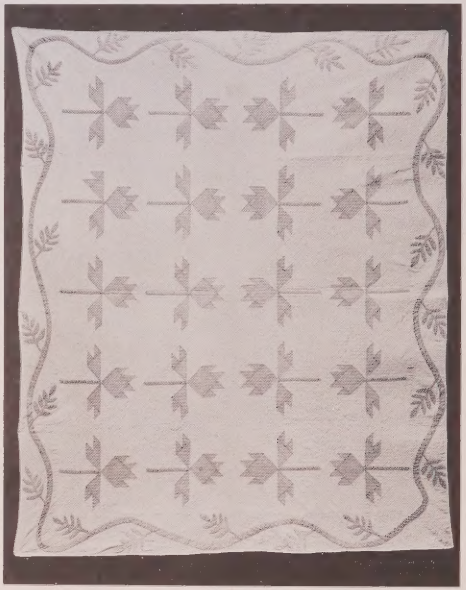
Niagara: "This Wonderful Downfall"
June 19 to September 15
Views of the Falls of Niagara in oil, watercolours and engravings by artists from 1638 to the late 19th century. The fabled cascade has been depicted by many artists and the exhibition, from ROM's Canadiana collection, includes the work of Father Hennepin, Thomas Davies, J. P. Cockburn, James Duncan and Major Henry Davis. Early books and diaries pertaining to Niagara augment the display. Sigmund Samuel Canadiana Building.

Stamps June 3 to July 15
Selected pages from the Douglas Duncan gift collection of France. Stamp Corner, Lower Level.

Paul Kane's Canadian West to June 16
Pencil and wash sketches by Kane of the life and ways of Western Indians; as well as landscapes and portraits in oil on canvas by Paul Kane and George Catlin. Sigmund Samuel Canadiana Building.

Frontier College 75th Anniversary
to June 23
Photographs and letters marking the 75th anniversary of Frontier College: depicting the historic development of the college and illustrating the work of two Canadian pioneers. Lower Rotunda.

Made in Canada to July 28
An exhibition in honour of the World Craft Council meeting in Toronto. It includes the many facets of the textile arts as they were practised in the earlier days of this country: quilts and handwoven coverlets of all kinds as well as knitting, crochet, macramé, hooking and all sorts of laces and embroideries. A colourful and fascinating display of interest to Canadians and to craftsmen from the world over. Textile Gallery. Tours of the exhibition Tuesdays at 12:15 p.m., free with Museum admission.



Pieced and appliquéd quilt. Green and white cotton with conventionalized maple leaves. Lindsay area, Ontario. Mid 19th century.

Stars, Bears and Dragons to June 16
A serious look at some of the mythology of the Spring Sky, as well as a discussion of some modern astronomical discoveries. Theatre of the Stars, McLaughlin Planetarium. Show times listed below.

Starfolk June 20 to September 29
Only in the past decade has mankind developed the technology to communicate with alien species across the galaxy. *Starfolk* discusses the possibility of extraterrestial intelligence and the feasibility of contact. Theatre of the Stars, McLaughlin Planetarium. Show times listed below.

Theatre of the Stars Show Times
Tuesdays to Friday: 3, 8 p.m.
Saturday: 2, 3:30, 7:30, 9 p.m.
Sunday: 2, 3:30, 5, 7:30 p.m.
Holidays: 2, 3:30 p.m.
Shows last about 50 minutes. Theatre tickets $1 includes admission to the Museum. Children under the age of six are not admitted to the Theatre.

ROM Services

ROM Public Hours, 100 Queen's Park
Tuesday to Saturday: 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Sunday: 1 to 9 p.m.
Monday: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Adult admission 50 cents, free after 5 p.m. Accompanied children free. Senior citizens and students with identification free.

ROM Libraries
The Museum's Reference Library is located on the second floor and is open Monday to Friday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Astronomical Library, in the McLaughlin Planetarium, is open on Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The Amhalayt carved by Leonard Duncan in ROM's main Book and Gift shop.

ROM Restaurants
A comfortable restaurant serving hot lunches and snacks is located on the main floor by the Armour Court and is open until 8 p.m. The Dinosaur Den children's cafeteria, on the Lower Level, closes at 4 p.m.

Members' Lounge
A quiet licensed lounge, down the stairs by the main restaurant, is available to all members of the Museum. Mondays from 12 to 5 p.m., Tuesdays to Fridays 12 to 9 p.m.

Sigmund Samuel Canadiana Building
14 Queen's Park Cres. West
Monday to Saturday: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Sunday: 1 to 5 p.m. Admission is free.

Information
Museum: 928-3690 **Planetarium:** 928-8550

ROM Shops
Throughout the month of June, ROM's Book and Gift Shop, located just inside the front entrance, will feature Canadian Indian art and crafts. Exotic carved bone and bead breast-plates and necklaces; a selection of bead work — pendants, necklaces and leather pouches with bead-work designs; totem poles carved of wood and argilite; Kwakiutl carved silver jewellery; quill boxes: a variety of False Face Society masks; and sweet grass boxes are among the Indian art work to be found.

As a special feature, and a real collector's item, an Amhalayt (headdress) carved by Leonard Duncan will be available. This one-only art piece has a birch frontlet with abalone shell and copper inlays, rabbit fur trim; bear features and legs are painted black and red; and the crown of red stroud has eleven ermine skins attached.

Book and Gift Shop Hours

Tuesday to Thursday: 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Friday, Saturday, Monday: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Sunday: 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

ROM Membership

Membership in the Museum is a rewarding experience. For $25 annually (individual), or $40 (family with two cards), a member receives free admission, use of the licensed Members' Lounge, a 10% discount on purchases over $2.00 at the three ROM Shops, invitations to preview parties, *ROM* the monthly publication of Museum events, and *Rotunda* the illustrated quarterly magazine. For residents outside metropolitan Toronto, individual annual membership is $15. Lifetime membership in the Museum is also invited as follows:
Life: $500
Fellow: $1,000
Benefactor: $2,500
Endowment: $5,000
Patron: $10,000
Lifetime membership categories are income tax deductible.
Call 928-3704 or write to the Membership Office.

Tours

ROM Gallery Tours

Weekdays, except holidays. Free with Museum admission. Tours subject to change.

June at 12:15		at 2
3	Ancient Greece	Chinese Bronzes
4	Made in Canada — Textiles	Canadian Indian Art '74
5	European Glass	"
6	Masks and Ceremonials	"
7	Windows on Nature's World	"
10	Chinese Porcelain	Canadian Indian Art '74
11	Made in Canada — Textiles	"
12	Chinese Tomb Figurines	"
13	French Furniture, Medieval to 19th c.	"
14	Gemstones	"
17	Chinese Arts	Canadian Indian Art '74
18	Made in Canada — Textiles	"
19	Native Peoples of Canada	"
20	English Porcelain	"
21	Enigma of the Etruscans	"
24	Buddhist Art	Canadian Indian Art '74
25	Made in Canada — Textiles	"
26	Islamic Art	"
27	English Period Rooms	"
28	General Tour	"

Group Tours

For the special exhibition of *Canadian Indian Art '74*, tours can be arranged for groups. Phone Mrs. Storie 487-0039.

Planetarium Tours

Every Tuesday and Thursday at 2 p.m. in the Mc Laughlin Planetarium. For groups, over 20 people, please phone in advance 928-8550.

Canadiana Tours

Wednesdays at 12:15 p.m. in the Sigmund Samuel Canadiana Building.

June

5 Canadian Glass
12 Oven to Table (Ceramics)
19 Gallery Tour
26 The French Connection

Inside ROM

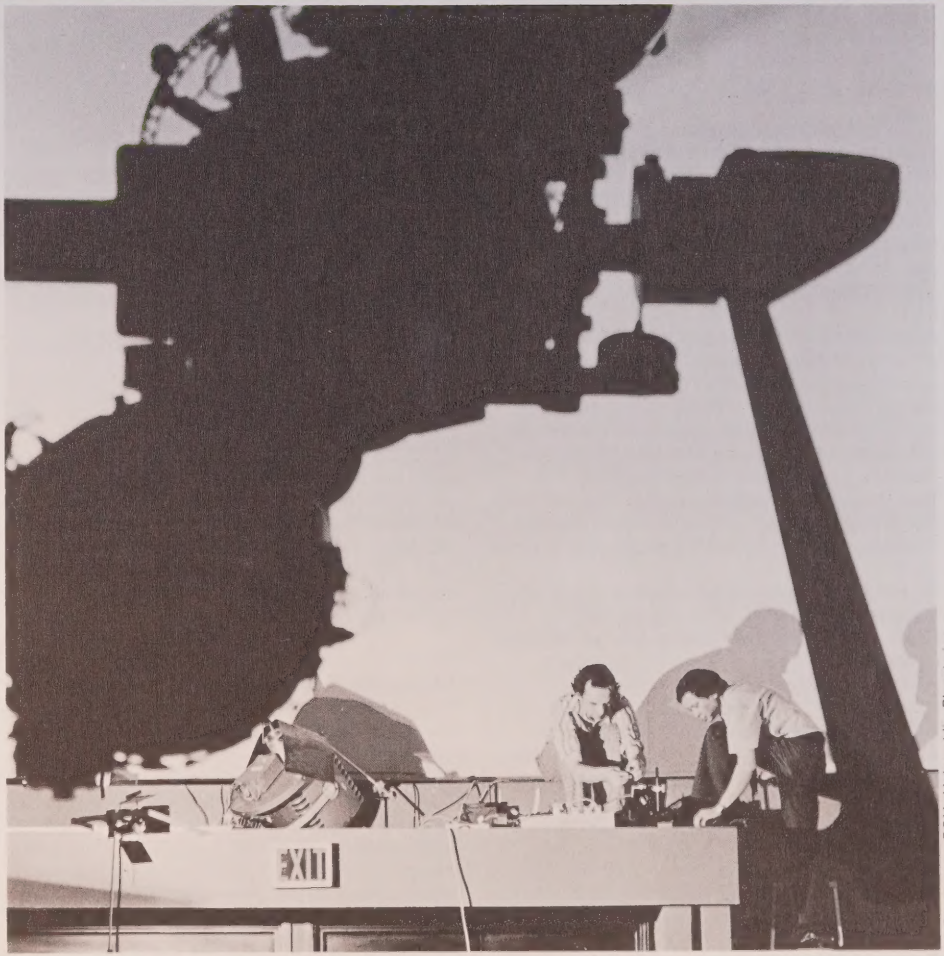
Backstage at the Theatre of the Stars

March 14, 1974, 3 p.m. Ticket-holders, who had virtually filled the Theatre of the Stars, were anxious to see the first public showing of *Stars, Bears and Dragons*. I too was anxious; would everything run smoothly? It had earlier in the day. As producer of this show I had the traditional, though dubious, honour of manning the console for the premiere performance — the performance in which dreams are either fulfilled or shattered. With the fading of lights and the change in music, the show began. As I stood by the dimmers and switches, I could not help but wonder how many in the audience realized that each passing minute on the domed screen represented man-hours of preparation.

Some five month earlier, in October, a meeting of the McLaughlin Planetarium curatorial staff had set the theme for this show. It was to include a bit of everything: wonders of the night sky, mythology, star spotting. There were deadlines to be met; some had to be revised or set aside in face of difficulties with the show that was then in the Theatre, *The Comet Connection*. But the March 14 deadline was unalterable.

Mythology is a strange world for the astronomer, and so the books and notes piled up — Greek, Sumerian, Egyptian, Chinese, North American Indian. How will it fit with the night sky? What are the key stars and constellations? Is there anything exciting to say about this particular sky? Over a month's time the choices are made, the theme acquires depth and breadth, a title comes in a flash of inspiration, and finally the show is in outline form.

Now committed to paper, *Stars, Bears and Dragons* consists only of synopses of scenes and a brief description of the main visual



M. Giovinazzo, ROM, McLaughlin Planetarium

Fred Jessop and Carlos Gomes install U.F.O. for the next Planetarium show.

features. These are sufficient for further staff discussion, but most important the artist Bill Ireland and the technical staff led by Fred Jessop can begin their tasks.

Script, art, and special effects proceed in step. Each makes demands on the other and small alterations are inevitable. The word-script must be built around visual material. Slides suggest words; words demand slides. This is an audio-visual script in which the words are accompanied by visuals. Panoramas, dissolver sequences, labels are all defined.

A few lines in an outline of script can mean days of labour. A panorama (360° horizon projection) consists of twelve pieces of artwork requiring almost two weeks of work. A setting sun demands considerable modification to a slide projector. A few minutes of movie film is the result of days of searching and editing. And then there are the slides — colour, line, filtered, kodalithed, masked, opaqued — they number over one hundred before the production is done.

With the completion of the script, a month or more before the show date, taping begins. George Finstad is the narrator. He has narrated several of our taped shows with consistent success. Other professional voices fill out specific roles to add colour and variety to the programme. To accompany the words and effects, we require music — music for sunsets, stars, story backgrounds, scene changes, and every important part of the show. All the taping, editing and mixing is accomplished in the Planetarium sound studio, provided by the McLaughlin endowment. Yet to be provided is a sound man, so Robert Ballantyne assumes this role as well as writing and producing shows.

One week to go and the pieces are done. A few

Bill Ireland and Mike Giovinazzo photograph panorama section.

parts are installed where and when the technical staff have found the space and time, between the demands of the current production and problems in the Theatre. The slides are now loaded in projector trays, and 150 tone pulses are carefully placed on the master tape to control slides and effects.

Normally we have three days to finalize everything in the Theatre itself, from the time one show ends until the time the next must begin. So, as the last week begins, there is a flurry of installation. Projectors are positioned, aligned, plugged in, and patched into the controls. Panoramas are removed and replaced by new ones. Mirrors and motors are adjusted and readjusted as the pieces begin to fit. Pulses are moved by seconds or changed completely as not all events in the show are predictable. With one day to go, the tape runs: minute by minute the staff waits for the first snag. This time we are lucky and find only two small problems. We know now that we will be ready on time.

March 14, 1974, 3:50 p.m. It took two of us, producer and technician, to keep on top of the cues for this premiere performance of *Stars, Bears and Dragons,* but as the last members of the audience leave, we have a feeling of relief and joy.

Rather unobtrusively most of the Planetarium staff have slipped into the Theatre to see the results — curatorial and technical — eleven of us in all. These are questions and suggestions; all know that adjustments must be made. But the show has been installed and it is running.

In a week the production of the next show will demand our attention. It must be ready to open June 20. The cycle has begun again.

Thomas Clarke,
Associate Curator, McLaughlin Planetarium

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